

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 DHA-02 TRSE-00
/054 W

-----251028Z 035922 /17

O P 250955Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2758
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMCONSUL MUNICH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRAGUE 1386

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, GW, CZ
SUBJECT: "FREE SOCIETY" REQUEST FOR MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR
STOESSEL

REF BONN 08786

1. THIS EMBASSY SEES NO RPT NO WAY IN WHICH GRANTING "FREE
SOCIETY" REQUEST FOR CALL ON AMBASSADOR STOESSEL WOULD SERVE U.S.
INTERESTS. USG CONCERN ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA IS
ALREADY CLEARLY ON RECORD. HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIAL U.S. ATTENTION TO
ACTIVITIES OF FREE SOCIETY, WHOSE MOTIVATIONS ARE APPARENTLY
MIXED (SEE BELOW), WOULD ONLY SERVE TO CONFIRM CZECHOSLOVAK REGIME'S
ACCUSATIONS THAT CHARTER 77 IS WESTERN-INSPIRED AND PART OF ALLEGED
ANTICOMMUNIST, ANTI-CZECHOSLOVAK CAMPAIGN. THERE COULD BE
CONSEQUENT DAMAGE TO POSITION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS HERE
WHO ARE ALREADY UNDER HEAVY REGIME PRESSURES.
CHARTER LEADERS HAVE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE CAREFUL
WAY IN WHICH WE HAVE SO FAR DEALT WITH THE CHARTER 77 ISSUE.
WE BELIEVE THAT THEY CONTINUE TO FEEL THAT THEIR MOST USEFUL,
LEAST DAMAGING SUPPORT FROM ABROAD COMES FROM WESTERN COMMUNIST
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AND SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC LEADERS, WHO DO NOT BEAR THE STIGMA OF
SUPPORTING CAPITALIST IDEOLOGY. WE FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT THE BEST
POSITION FOR THE USG IS TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT IN PRINCIPLE
EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE RECOGNIZED STANDARDS OF HUMAN RIGHTS, BUT TO
AVOID APPEARING TO ENDORSE ACTIONS OF SPECIFIC INDIVIDUALS OR
GROUPS, UNLESS THEY HAVE REQUESTED SUCH SUPPORT AND PROVIDING
IT WILL NOT EXACERBATE THEIR SITUATION.

2. FRG EMBASSY TELLS US THAT FREE SOCIETY IS MADE UP LARGELY
OF 1968 EMIGRES FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA PLUS SOME OLDER GENERATION
EMIGRES. IT HAS CONNECTIONS WITH THE SUDETENDEUTSCHE LANDSMANNSCHAFT
AND ALSO WITH THE CSU. ALL OF THE ABOVE ARE, OF COURSE,
FREQUENT TARGETS OF VITRIOLIC CZECHOSLOVAK PROPAGANDA, WHICH
IN THE CASE OF THE SUDETEN GERMANS AND THE CSU PROBABLY STRIKES
STRONG RESPONSIVE CHORDS AMONG THE CZECH MASSES. IT APPEARS
POSSIBLE EMBASSY BONN WILL COME UNDER PRESSURE FROM CSU OFFICIALS
OR LEGISLATORS TO RECEIVE FREE SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES, BUT
WE HOPE THAT IT WILL BE ABLE TO RESIST THEM.
BYRNE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, MEETINGS, AMBASSADORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770186-0686
Format: TEL
From: PRAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770519/aaaaaqho.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 6153498a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Content Flags:
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TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, GE, CZ, FREE SOCIETY FOR ADV OF FRIENDSHIP, (STOESSEL, WALTER J JR)
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